

RD-24364 (3451)

JAN 07 2003

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
U.S.

01-08-0

AF/1742

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Raymond Grant Rowe
Serial No.	09/773,782
Filing Date	February 2, 2001
For	CREEP RESISTANT ZIRCONIUM ALLOY AND NUCLEAR FUEL CLADDING INCORPORATING SAID ALLOY
Examiner	Harry D. Wilkins III
Art Unit	1742

Box AF
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

RECEIVED
JAN 09 2003
TC 1700

In response to the Office Action mailed November 7, 2002, rejecting claims 1-7 and 18-35 of the above-identified Application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments and remarks be considered.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 8 with the following:

Two plates of Zircaloy-2 were compared. Plate A was cold rolled 51 % from an as-hot rolled Zircaloy-2 plate nominally one inch thick. Plate B was cold rolled 36% from a second one inch thick plate which was beta heat treated and quenched before cold rolling. Following cold rolling, both plates were given a 3 hr heat treatment in Ar gas at 620°C. Plate A had a uniform fine recrystallized grain structure. Plate B had a coarse